

St. Gregory the Great  
Episcopal Church  
Athens, GA

## GREGORIAN CHANT

JUNE/JULY 2017



### Happy Birthday to the Church! The Feast of Pentecost Sunday June 4



The Feast of Pentecost is one of the three great feasts and celebrations of the church year along with Christmas and Easter. We sometimes call Pentecost the “birthday of the Church” because on this day the Holy Spirit fell on the gathered disciples, empowering them to continue the mission and ministry of Jesus in the world. The Church is alive by the breath and power of the Jesus’ Spirit

Some of the traditions of Pentecost Sunday include:

**Wear red**—Red is the color of the Holy Spirit and symbolizes the tongues of flame in the Pentecost story.

**Languages**—Some lessons and prayers are read in different languages to remember that the Holy Spirit fell on all flesh and everyone heard the good news in their own language.

**Baptisms**—We are “sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ’s own forever” at our baptism.

#### **Pentecost Picnic**

St. Gregory’s celebrates Pentecost with a festive potluck picnic! Tables will be set up in the courtyard, but indoor seating will also be available. Parish Life is providing the hot dogs and buns, condiments, chips, a large sheet cake (in honor of the 3 baptisms) and drinks.

**Please bring a side dish to share!** The festivities begin around 12 noon. We will need lots of helping hands! If anyone is available for set-up and/or clean up, please contact Ann Somerville at 315-534-0455 or [ansomerville717@gmail.com](mailto:ansomerville717@gmail.com).

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### Loving Him Away: A Caregiver's Journey

In March, Diane Barret was invited to present a program for OLLI describing her journey with her husband, John Rives, who passed away in December, 2015, from complications from dementia. She has offered to share her experience as a caregiver with us; and how she developed a compassionate heart and a good sense of humor along the way. Since his death she has dealt with the grief of his loss and has used her creative life as a path toward healing and wholeness. She will offer her poetry, paintings, and music in the hope that this might help others on a similar journey. Please join her at St. Gregory’s in the Children’s Chapel on **Saturday, June 24 at 10:30AM.**

## PASTORAL CARE

### Pastoral Care Committee

The Pastoral Care Committee will meet the 2nd Sunday of each month (June 11, July 9) immediately following the 10:30am service.

### Card Ministry

If anyone knows that someone needs to receive a get-well card from the parish card ministry, please let Ken Taylor know at [intj1973@hotmail.com](mailto:intj1973@hotmail.com). Thank you.

### Transitions Group

The Wednesday afternoon Transition's group will be incorporating the concepts from the bucket book series into their daily lives. Come join us as we navigate through practices that promote real and lasting change while sharing meaningful tools and tactics. Our group incorporates advanced meditation techniques and mindfulness training while sharing support and community.

## Movie Nights!

The parish spiritual life movie for

**June** will be *Secondhand Lions* (PG, 2003), starring

Michael Caine, Robert Duvall, and Haley Joel Osment. Caine and Duvall portray the eccentric great-uncles and father figures of the young man Osment plays. The screening will start in the chapel at 6:30 p.m. on **Friday, June 30.**



The parish spiritual life movie for **July** will be *To Kill a Mockingbird* (1962), starring the great Gregory Peck as Atticus Finch. The film is also the first movie to feature Robert Duvall, who portrays Boo Radley. The screening will start in the chapel at 6:30 p.m. on **Friday, July 28.**

The parish spiritual life movie for **August** will be restored version of *The Passion of Joan of Arc* (1928), a classic from the era of silent films. The facial expressions of the actors steal the show. This version of the movie features a soundtrack performed by the Anonymous 4. The screening will start in the chapel at 6:30 p.m. on **Friday, August 25.**

**\*\*Free drinks and popcorn will be available. Child care can be available, given sufficient advance notice.\*\***

## FEAST

The next FEAST (Food Distribution) is Saturday, **JULY 15.** Volunteer sheets will be in the Christian Education Building. Please consider donating a couple hours of your time for this worthwhile event ... you will not regret it.

Volunteers need to be at Covenant Presbyterian Church no later than 7AM with Registration Volunteers there by 6:45AM as we now open the doors to our neighbors at 7AM. Please park across the street from the church in the parking lot adjacent to Bank of America.

For any questions please call one of our liaisons: Barbara Crowley 706-850-5557, David Lowe 706-372-4671, Pat Irby 706-850-3334 or Carol Cason 706-338-4789.



## An Invitation from the Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, calls Episcopalians to stand with other Christians and people of good will to fast on the 21<sup>st</sup> of each month through December 2018 in solidarity with and advocacy for the poor and hungry in the US, especially children, in the face of imminent cuts to government benefits. Visit <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/library/video/such-time-call-prayer-fasting-and-advocacy>.

## Threads of Prayer

Since the parish group Threads of Prayer has been meeting off and on for several years, it seems appropriate to talk about what we do and why we do it. Our mission statement is: *To knit and crochet in congenial and prayerful community tangible expressions of the church's love for those in need of healing and comfort.*

We have made chemo caps, shawls, lap or larger blankets, scarves, or hats for children and babies. After each item is completed, we pray over the item, asking that God bring healing and comfort to those who will receive it. These items are given to a community member or someone one of our members knows who needs comfort, maybe after the loss of a loved one, a diagnosis of cancer or other serious illness or someone who is not able to come to services.

We meet every other week on Thursday at 10AM at someone's home or at church. Each meeting is published ahead of time in the Friday parish email and/or Sunday bulletin. We welcome new members, including anyone who would like to learn to knit or crochet. It's fun to sit together in community and talk while we work. For those who cannot make it but who would like to contribute something to the effort, we welcome any items you would like to make or any excess yarn you want to donate.

If you know of anyone who needs or would like such an item, or want to donate something or for more information, you can contact any member of our group or Annette Bates at [bateskannette@gmail.com](mailto:bateskannette@gmail.com) or can drop off any item or yarn with Kendall in the church office.

# ADULTSTUDY

## Adult Sunday School

**Creation, Literature, and Faith.** Sunday, June 4, Ron Balthazor will conclude the 3-week discussion of creation, literature, and faith. We will begin with the Genesis stories and our own connection to creation and then extend the conversation with poetry, fiction, and essays.

**Historical Context of the New Testament.** On June 18, July 2 and July 9, Wayne Coppins will lead discussions concerning the Historical Context of the New Testament. During the rest of July the Adult Class will be in recess; new programs will be starting in early August.  
-- *Bill Alworth*

## Welcoming Our Refugee Neighbors - Sunday, June 25

Guest Speaker: Beto Cacao

Beto Cacao is the coordinator for the Athens Immigrant Rights Coalition. On Sunday, June 25, come hear about the Athens Immigrant Rights Coalition and discuss the challenges facing our immigrant communities and what we can do to help. Beto will be highlight immigration policies and what AIRC has done in the last several months to support our immigrant neighbors. They've been very busy and have many projects going on. We'll learn how St. Gregory's can help in these projects and be a welcoming presence in our community.

**Ongoing Lectionary Study.** I take preparation for the lectionary discussion group (Sundays at 9:15, in the library) seriously. It is not uncommon for me to consult 16-20 books and three or more translations during lesson preparation. I do this because I take the the Bible and the study of it seriously and find it to be transformational. I read the Bible more for formation than for information. Better than private Bible study is group study and discussion. The more people who participate, the better. -- *Kenneth Taylor*

## Let Your Life Speak

July 5, 12, 19, 26

Wednesday Mornings 10:00 am

Let Your Life Speak, by Parker Palmer, is a contemporary spiritual classic. Listening to your life is a way of listening for and to God. Come join us for a simple summer book study and conversation with others on the journey of faith. Facilitated by Karen Kassinger and Laura Bryant.

## Kanuga

Please pray for three parishioners from St. Gregory's who will be attending the Christian Formation Conference at Kanuga in June – this is a gathering of Episcopal Christian formation leaders from all over the country! Vicky Tavernier is the staff musician, Catherine Drewry is on the planning team, and will lead a workshop on the World Peace Village, and Melissa Hamlin will be studying Godly Play more intensely during this special week of continuing education and renewal.

## Happy Birthday! - June

June 1	Laura Bryant
June 2	Beth Thornton
June 4	Tina Carlson Eliza Everson
June 5	Abigail Hoover Julia Hoover Katie Reinberger
June 7	Ellie Barkdoll Lauren Koch
June 8	Liz Edmonston Allison Grant Karl Weinmeister
June 9	Sean Boyle
June 10	Addy Miller
June 12	Jane Armistead Simone Hovland Coppins Jeffery Ross
June 13	Cindy Vail
June 15	Lewis Heald Angela Lankford
June 16	Alice McNiff Jennie Sturgis
June 18	Pat Irby Jenifer Marquardt
June 19	Walker Welch
June 20	Maddy Wickwire
June 21	Alice Kinman
June 25	Ed Risler
June 26	Margaret Dull Marge Massey Robert Scott
June 27	Gretchen Koch Mary Alice Isele
June 29	Catherine Drewry

## Happy Birthday! - July

July 1	Nathan Risler
July 2	Ann Woodyard Mikaella Rollie
July 5	Quinn Phillips
July 6	June Cottrell Angel Grace Ethier
July 8	Mike Peck Maddie Yates
July 10	Melodi Bennett Joe Weinmeister
July 11	Ron Bates
July 12	Alice Mohor
July 13	Kathie Chong
July 15	Robert Wyatt
July 16	Ken Packer
July 17	Ann Somerville
July 18	Evelyn Blackman
July 19	Pam Nolen
July 21	Jay Cook, Sr. Kate Long
July 22	Fred Johnson Colin Boyle
July 23	Richard Cooper Suzy Preston Salley Dingus Isabella Van Giesen
July 28	Janet Patterson
July 30	Amy Kuhn
July 31	Daphne Blackburn

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendar for **July 10-13**, 5:30-7:45 nightly! Dare to Be Different! is the theme for Vacation Bible School, based on [A Wrinkle in Time](#) by Madeleine L'Engle. VBS at St. G's is for ALL AGES – even adults get to play! We start each evening with supper (always delicious, nutritious, and accommodating special diets), then have wonderful skits, singing, games, stories, crafts, and worship time. Invite your friends and neighbors! Registration will be online on the church website soon!



### Children's Sunday School

On June 4th, children in Sunday School will have a special Pentecost program from 9:15 – 10:15. Wear red!

Kids! - Have a Bucket –Filling summer at St. G's Sunday School, 9:15-10:15 May 28, June 11, 18, and 25th. Did you know that everyone has an invisible bucket that is filled with good thoughts and feelings? Using the book [Have You Filled a Bucket Today? A Guide to Daily Happiness for Kids](#) by Carol McCloud, we will learn ways to express kindness, appreciation, and love on a daily basis. Missy Hamlin will lead these classes. <http://bucketfillers101.com/>

We will not have Sunday School in the month of July and the first two weeks of August. However, we *will* have Children's Chapel throughout the summer.

### Parish-Wide Breakfasts!

Parish-Wide Breakfasts are planned for July 2 and August 6, between the two services (~8:45-10:15). Sunday School will resume on August 20.



### Rhythms of Grace



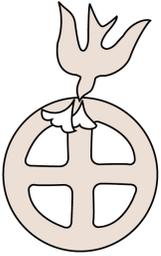
Families looking for a different worship experience are invited to Rhythms of Grace, on Sundays at 3PM at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church. Summer dates are **June 11, July 9, and August 13**. This adaptive service is designed to be welcoming to those for whom conventional worship may be difficult, including those sensitive to loud music or crowds, those on the Autism spectrum, and wiggly children who just want to move! The service features scripture and storytelling, therapeutic play, and a simplified prayer for Holy Communion. Gathering and dismissal rituals and visual and auditory cues help with transitioning.

St. Gregory's hosts Rhythms of Grace on the second Sunday of each month in our sanctuary. All are welcome at every service at St. Gregory's. Please invite your friends! Any questions? Contact Catherine Drewry, director of Children's Ministries at 706-201-7241 or [cbdrewry@gmail.com](mailto:cbdrewry@gmail.com). The Rev. Gordon Bienvenue may be reached at 706-850-0090 or [gordon11901@gmail.com](mailto:gordon11901@gmail.com).

## Safeguarding God's Children Training

Safeguarding God's Children training will be offered on Sunday, August 6 at 12:15 in the parish hall. Lunch and childcare will be provided. This class helps participants learn ways to recognize and prevent childhood sexual abuse. It is recommended for everyone, and is required by the national church for all those who work with children or youth, anyone in a leadership position (committee chairs, vestry, etc.), employees, and anyone with a key to the church. Please notify Catherine Drewry if you will be attending. [cbdrewry@gmail.com](mailto:cbdrewry@gmail.com) / 706-201-7241.

## Life at St. Gregory's: A Celebration of Community and Service



We've been hearing a lot lately about community. Henri Johnson spoke of it in his homily on Youth Sunday, when he thanked the community of St. Gregory's for sustaining him through rough times and inspiring him to be inclusive and loving in his daily contact with others. Laura spoke of community when she reminded us of the early Christians' four tenets of faith: to continue in the teachings, the breaking of the bread, the fellowship, and the prayers. In the scriptures, in the prayers, and even in the dismissal, we are called "...to love and serve God and one another," both in the community of the church and in the larger community beyond our doors.

A quick look through last month's Chant shows a variety of activities within our small but vibrant parish: a grand celebration of Holy Week and Easter, shared meals, discussion groups, Christian formation for adults and children, service to the greater Athens community through food distribution and an alternative worship experience—these are just a few of the opportunities available to us at St. Gregory's. Do you ever look at these and wonder how it all works, how you can become a part of the action, or if there is a ministry at St. Gregory's that serves your specific need? We have just the event for you!

On August 13, between the two morning services and continuing after the 10:30 services, the Stewardship Committee is sponsoring "Life At St. Gregory's: A Celebration Of Community And Service." Once known as a "ministry fair," this expanded event is designed to spread the word about St. Gregory's ministries and opportunities to connect and serve. Tables will be set up for displays, and all ministries, committees, and groups are invited to share information about their particular aspect of St. Gregory's community and the ways in which we can participate. All are welcome to attend, to learn, and to sign up for an opportunity to grow in service and fellowship. For more information, please contact Terri Tillman, [tillman@gmail.com](mailto:tillman@gmail.com).

## Portrait Revolution - Kline Howell

Carolyn Howell would like to announce the publication of Portrait Revolution edited by Julia Kay, who formed the international online collaborative of artists in 2010. The group now consists of over 1,000 professional and amateur artists from 55 countries. Kline Howell was one of the most prolific artists in this group which is called Julia Kay Portrait Party (JKPP). Ms. Kay chose 200 artists to appear in this book, pulling from over 50,000 works of portraiture represented in many styles and techniques through different mediums, including pencil, pen, charcoal, oils, watercolors, acrylics, pastels, mixed media, digital, collage, and more. Kline's work appears five times, including the back cover. He also appears as a model for three portraits. The book has been published in the UK and US and has been receiving rave reviews from both countries. It also includes tips, recommendations, and insights from artists around the globe. Carolyn and her daughter, Felicia, just wish that Kline were here to know of the success of this book.

Carolyn has donated a copy to the St. Gregory library for those interested to look through. You can also purchase one at Barnes and Noble and Amazon. Kline was a long-time member of St. Gregory's from 1973 until his passing in 2016.

## Breadbakers arise!

*(pun intended)*

Are you a baker? We are looking for 4 or 5 folks to take turns baking bread each week for Sunday worship. Providing bread is an act of love and a wonderful responsibility to share amongst those who enjoy baking. Many thanks to Katie Towns for working solo and supplying all the fresh baked bread for the past several years!

## Greeters

Every Sunday morning, welcoming greeters invite both newcomers and members of St. Gregory's. Greeters await people at the front entrance, meet new attendees, and direct guests to the guest book. If you would like to learn more about this ministry, contact Jamaica Miller at [mai2@bellsouth.net](mailto:mai2@bellsouth.net) or give her a call at (706) 316-9766.

## Baptism Banners

Alice Mohor and Nancy Hobart have been making the baptism banners for our newly baptized but are no longer able to do it. Alice will be glad to train anyone who is able to help with or take on the ministry completely! Please contact Alice if you are willing to take on this ministry. [alicemohor@windstream.net](mailto:alicemohor@windstream.net) or 706-742-8976.

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